



December 1996

Volume XXIII Issue 12

# CLIFF HANGERS

Volume XII



'Twas the night before Christmas and all across the repeater, not a signal was heard on the ole' 2 meter, Ma with her Kenwood and I with my Rat Shack, had just settled down for a little cat nap.

When out on the repeater there rose such a clatter, I grabbed my rig to see what's the matter.

Much to my wandering eyes do I see, a ham call plate reading MKB, A little ole' fat man so then did I see, I recognized the call from ATV.

The little ole' guy so lively and quick, I knew in a moment "This guy must be sick!"

He went around my shack and grabbed up a ladder, started down the chimney with a bunch of Hamsplatters.

The old boy was dressed in lovely attire, too bad I had just put a log on the fire.

His lead reindeer had an oscillator in his nose, this was bad for Santa as most foxhunters know!

I heard him exclaim as he rode out of sight, I'll get you all back come Friday night.

Friday the 13th is coming up, and it's not Halloween. It's time once again for the FWRC Christmas party and banquet. The banquet will be held at the clubhouse [The Good Shepherd United Methodist Church] located at the corner of Vance and Reed Street in Ft Wayne. The banquet starts at 6:00pm. Come as you are and enjoy a

great meal. This year we will have chicken and ham, we ask that you bring a side dish or dessert. The drinks, tableware etc, will be provided. This makes up a feast designed for a king. Besides all of the great food, the old man in the red suit will be there to find out who's been naughty or nice. For added enjoyment we are going to have a music combo that has played for the Vice President of the United States. Lot's of great Christmas tunes and more. Get ready for a good time.. This is a FWRC get together you don't want to miss. Remember! This banquet and party is for you and your entire family. Remember last's years party where the "Ding-A-Lings got up and sang the famous ding-a-ling song. I've talked to these fine young outstanding artists and they tell me they are still playing with there ding-a-lings. Dino said he put his ding-a-ling away after Christmas, when he went to

## December Meeting:

Friday  
December 13, 1996  
6:00pm  
Good Shepherd  
United Methodist  
Church

(Located at the corner of  
Vance Ave. and Reed Rd.)

get it out this year his ding-a-ling had a crease in it. { From non use. } Jim Pliett said his broke when it fell on the floor. [he must have abused his]. Dave Beltz said his still works but one string is longer than the other and it makes it difficult to shake. Now Carl Rittenhouse had a different story. He said the cat chewed off one side of his ding-a-ling and now when he shakes it, it makes him sing in a higher key. {The preceding announcement regarding the

FWRC Ding-a-lings is factual according to record, any resemblance to a normal human being is strictly coincidental}. I had a great time this year as your President. I'm sure you can tell. I'm proud of the heritage of this club, it's achievements, and it's members. I've greatly appreciated the support and professionalism of this years Board of Directors. I want to thank all of you, to numerous to mention for the hard work in putting on this years club events. This was a year of change. My mind is a collage of good friends and good times. The FWRC is one of the finest clubs in Indiana. We now sport 240 members and are growing at a fast pace. The W9TE repeater system continues to grow and improve. As a result of being your president I have now 240 new friends. I look forward to working with our new president Ernie Bacon N9QIX and the 1997 Board of Directors. It's been a great year. Don't forget, the coffee pot's always on at N9MKB's shack.

From my family to yours, we wish you a very "Merry Christmas", and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

See you at the Christmas banquet, 73'

"Saloon for Now"

Cliffie N9MKB



Fort Wayne  
Radio Club  
Since 1920

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## November 1996 Minutes

*The following are the recorded minutes of the Fort Wayne Radio Club:*

### FT. WAYNE RADIO CLUB MINUTES NOVEMBER, 1996

President Cliff Shreve (N9MKB) called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. with self introductions of approximately 38 members. The minutes of the October meeting were read and approved with the correction of Scott Price's call as N9VZJ.

Treasurer Carl Rittenhouse (N9NRO) presented the following report:

The General Account's total expenses were \$298.84 (broken down into Miscellaneous \$73.21, November Hamsplatter \$144.10, Repeater Power \$11.03 and Copy machine repair \$52.50.

The General Account's total income was \$116.43.

The Hamfest Account had no expenses or income as did the Repeater Account.

There was no old business.

Under new business President Cliff announced that the 146.94 autopatch is now functional. The proper procedure to access is as follows:

1. Listen for a few seconds to assure that no conversation is in progress.
2. Key up , identify your station and announce for the autopatchUnkey!
3. Re-key, dialing \* plus the desired phone number.Unkey!
4. The repeater, after a short series of beeps, will read back the number being dialed and you will hear the phone ringing. **NOTE: If you do not want the phone number read back on the air then kerchunk the repeater immediately after dialing the number.** ( i.e. key up briefly during the beeps)
5. When your patch is complete, you disconnect be transmitting the # tone
6. Identify and announce that you have cleared the patch.

Other features available:

Emergency speed dial numbers are programmed into the controller as follows:

- \*1 = 911 **EMERGENCY ONLY!!**
- \*2 = Fort Wayne Police Department (non-emergency)
- \*3 = Allen County Police Sheriff Department
- \*4 = Indiana State Police

Reverse autopatch: Now you can call out to the 146.94 frequency from any telephone simply by dialing 484 - 6636 Extension 8740. When the repeater controller answers with "W9TE CONTROL", then press 1 # to activate the reverse autopatch. It will then ring out on the

air. Any hamstation monitoring can answer by transmitting \* tone. That ham then assumes the legal status of "control operator" as defined in the FCC rules and regulations. To end the patch transmit the # tone. This can be a useful

and helpful tool for our repeater system however please do not abuse this option or it will be terminated.

A consensus show of hands affirmed a proposed study into the linking of the 444.875 FWRC repeater with the Columbia City 70 cm machine. It was also noted that the Whitley County group has under consideration the linking of their 444.550 and 145.27 machines. Dialog will follow.

Attention was called to the important news release printed in the Hamsplatter regarding the future of the Summit City hamfest. Without a general chairman and key staff positions there is no way the club can continue to sponsor this fund raising event. Without the hamfest the club treasury will have to curtail expenses accordingly. A show of hands of those present indicated that about half would like to see the hamfest continue.

The board of directors brought forth a proposal to purchase four (4) repeaters. D & L has a contract to replace all of the Indiana Toll Road's Master-Pro repeaters. They are being made available for purchase at \$ 100.00 each and are in pristine condition. The board's proposal was to purchase a replacement for each of the existing repeaters and a spare. On motion by Dino, KR9V and second by Dick, N9BNA the purchase was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Carl, N9NRO reported that the November foxhunt was the final for the year and was won be the N9AVR/ N9MKB team. For the calendar year the point leaders are N9NRO followed by N9AVR, KB9DOT, KB9DOS, N9MKB, N9GK, KF9AW and others. A complete report will be given at a future meeting.

Cliff, N9MKB, announced that plans are coming together to take Santa to the Ft Wayne Training and Development Center (State School) via

ATV again this year. Also under consideration is a visit to the Parkview pediatrics patients.

A future project in the making is the installation of an ATV, receive only, station at the Veterans Administration Hospital locally. Reportedly there are a number of patients that are licensed ham radio operators who would be interested in a connection with the hobby on a local basis.

The December meeting will be a Christmas party and banquet at the church on Friday December 13, 1996 at 6:00 p.m. The club will furnish the chicken, ham, table service and the drinks. Members are asked to bring a desert or a side dish for a giant buffet. Arrangements have been made for a visit by the "JollyOle Man" himself.

The drawing for two tickets for the Fort Wayne Hamfest was won by Jack, N9JFT, and Dave, N9LOV.

Following the business meeting, Todd Hargis, N9XRG, gave an interesting and educational look at the Internet. After a brief history of it's origin and growth, he gave a live demonstration of several features that ranged from medical research to voice conversation with a ham in Toronto, Canada. It was well presented and well received with many questions answered.

Meeting adjourned at 10:27 p.m. -

Prepared by Bill Hall (WD9HII)



## W5YI REPORT

November 1, 1996

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter

### AMATEUR RADIO IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The World Radiocommunications Conference 1995 adopted a resolution calling for the consideration of the international amateur and amateur-satellite service regulations (Article 25) at WRC-99 with a view to making appropriate changes to the Radio Regulations that might be needed. To determine the needs, the International Amateur Radio Union formed the Future of the Amateur Service Committee (FASC) consisting of Chairman Michael Owen VK3KI and members John Bazley G3HCT, Tom Atkins VE3CDM, Terry Carrell ZLBQL, Larry Price W4RA and David Sumner K1ZZ. In April 1996, a Discussion Paper asking several questions about Amateur Radio in the

next century was prepared and distributed to the various amateur radio societies of the world. The FASC presented the initial comments at the Tel Aviv IARU Region 1 meeting October 6-8. Here is a capsule version of that report which was written by Michael Owen of Australia.

#### Introduction

"The purpose of this Discussion Paper is to provide a basis for informed debate by the amateur community on the issues that are raised. It attempts to identify the relevant issues, provide the background, and offer some possible solutions. It is a discussion paper, and should not be interpreted as expressing any final view of the Committee, or the view of any region or the Administrative Council.

The definition of the "amateur service":

We pointed out that the definition has not been significantly changed since the first international regulation of radio, and expressed the view that it remains entirely appropriate today. We asked: Is the definition of the "amateur service" still appropriate?

JM1UXU, SSA (Sweden), RSGB (Great Britain), O.V.S.V. (Austria), WIA (Australia) agreed with our conclusion. However, AMSAT-NA suggest the deletion of the words "interested in radio technique", pointing out that the interests of radio amateurs are far broader than those words suggest.

We believe that this proposal deserves further discussion. We ask do those words, in fact or potentially, limit legitimate amateur activities? Or, do they reinforce the reason that the services exist?

#### The banned country list:

We asked: Should the Radio Regulations leave it to administrations to prohibit or permit their amateurs to engage in international communications, or should the international Regulations themselves prohibit such communications if one country objects? Does it matter?

SSA feels that no change is necessary, O.V.S.V. believe there is no need for the present restriction. Overall, more supported our suggestion than opposed it.

### **The amateur service as a resource for emergency communications:**

In the Discussion Paper we examined the many international declarations that recognize the value of the amateur service as a resource for emergency communications. We asked: Should Article S25 include a provision encouraging the amateur service to have the experience to and to provide emergency communications? Does the prohibition of international communications on behalf of third parties inhibit the development of emergency communication nets? Is the ability of the amateur service to have the experience to provide and to provide emergency communications inhibited by the nature of the messages permitted to be transmitted by amateur stations? JMIUXU, advocates caution in this area, arguing that such activities are not "proper", but rather incidental activities for the service. SSA and JMIUXU both look to Resolution 640 rather than a change to S25. However, most see the ability to provide emergency communication as important, and a number saw the desirability of a provision facilitating such activity.

### **Messages on behalf of a third party:**

We do not question the right of an administration to prohibit its amateurs from carrying messages on behalf of a third party. We do believe that any messages so carried must be non commercial and not carried for reward. We question whether or not the attitudes that existed when the international prohibition was included in the Regulations have changed. We also raise the question whether the prohibition is really consistent with the international use of store and forward techniques. Should the international prohibition remain in the Regulations?

Would its removal enhance the ability of the amateur service to provide emergency communications?

We discussed S25.2 in the context of carrying messages on behalf of a third party. JMIUXU suggests that the prohibition could be removed, or at least special provision inserted to deal with emergency communications, while others took a different view. O.V.S.V. agreed that it should be left to each administration to limit or not limit "third party traffic", so long as it was in accordance with the "main" definition of the amateur service. Several submissions addressed the phrase

"in plain language. The provision reads:

S25.2 (1) When transmissions between amateur stations of different countries are permitted, they shall be made in plain language and shall be limited to messages of a technical nature relating to tests and to remarks of a personal character for which, by reason of their unimportance, recourse to the public telecommunications service is not justified.

A number supported the concept of "plain language". RSGB points out that "plain language" should mean that the details of any coding used must be publicly available, and transmissions that are deliberately encoded to conceal meaning should be the subject of the ban. AMSAT-NA interpret the phrase the same way. RSGB suggest that the restriction should remain, and trying to remove it may cause adverse reaction. We agree that plain language encompasses any code that is available generally, and that what is prohibited is any encryption intended to conceal meaning.

### **Technical and operational qualifications to be an amateur:**

In our Discussion Paper we suggested that the technical and operational qualifications to be an amateur are fundamental to the privileges that are given to the amateur service. We said that the appropriate qualification is essential to distinguish

the amateur service from other use of the spectrum. We pointed out that the present Regulations do not set a "standard," but leave that to each administration. If it was considered desirable that some standard be set, we said that we would not suggest an elaborate curriculum, rather the identification of basic topics on which knowledge should be demonstrated.

We asked: Should the Article set some standard for the technical and operational qualifications for the amateur

service? How can this be made flexible? Our concern that the present provisions may not be meaningful was reinforced by the example given to us of the question "What is 'a'?" with response "di-dah" being sufficient to qualify the morse test. SSA prefers the present position which provides flexibility.

...On the other hand, we did receive suggestions of a quite elaborate and multi level license structure. We question whether that is the proper role of the international regulations how can the international regulations define a licensing structure that can meet the different needs of all administrations?

### **Morse code:**

We did not question the value of morse code as a means of communication, nor did we question the right of an administration to require its amateurs to demonstrate a skill in morse code. At present, morse code as a qualification is a treaty obligation. We said that we had regard to the fact that we were concerned with obligations that will govern the amateur service in the next century. We asked: Should testing the morse code ability of certain amateur licences be retained as a treaty obligation? If so, what are the reasons that administrations would find persuasive~ far the greatest response, par This issue attracted ticularly from U.S. amateurs. Very many addressed this issue alone, seeing it as more important, we assume, than what we saw as the prior question of qualification in general terms. Many

opposed our suggestion that the requirement should cease to be treaty obligation, though many did not address the issue in the context of a treaty obligation.

On the other hand, we received some careful arguments in favor of taking the requirement out of the international regulations and leaving it to administrations to determine whether the morse is a licensing requirement for their country. A number of societies are still considering the matter, and we do not feel that we can take the discussion further at this stage.

We would find it unfortunate if this single issue was allowed to overshadow the many other and we think equally important issues that are raised.

#### **The international recognition of amateur licenses:**

We pointed out that many countries accept a home country driving license to allow visitors to drive in their country. We asked whether an amateur should be able to visit another country and during that visit be able to use his home country license? We examined the CEPT arrangements for Europe, and the CIIEL arrangements for the Americas. We suggested that Article S25 could include provisions facilitating such use.

We asked: Should the Article include a provision facilitating the international recognition of amateur licenses of visiting amateurs? If so, would the prospects of the acceptance of such a provision be enhanced if the Article set a standard for the technical and operational qualifications of amateurs?

This suggestion, while supported by some, did not receive the support we expected. For example, SSA sees the difficulties as probably being too great to meet a need that they see as desirable, and others questioned whether it is the role of the ITU to facilitate such matters.

#### **The amateur satellite service:**

We examined the definition of the amateur satellite service, and had a

concern that the service is restricted to space stations on "earth satellites". We said that we did not know whether that restriction could present a problem in the future. We also looked at the measures to ensure that amateur satellites do not cause harmful interference. We asked: Should the amateur service seek a change to the definition of "amateur satellite service"? Should any other change to the provisions governing the amateur satellite service be sought? AMSAT-NA supported our concern in respect "earth satellites". The separate definition of the service is supported.

#### **General approach:**

It is obvious, we think, that proposals for change should be approached with caution, despite the opportunity that is identified in our terms of reference to examine the international regulations "with a view to formulating the changes, if any, that are desirable to properly reflect the objects, needs, obligations and privileges of the services for the next century, so that the services remain viable and valuable, meaningful and relevant to both the community and to those licensed in the services.

Some warn that the revision of Article S25 should be limited to the minimum absolutely necessary, avoiding any attempt to impose obligations on countries. Change for change's sake should be avoided.

An issue has been raised with us in relation to improving the language of S25. There is no doubt that the language could be improved...We welcome such suggestions, but only on the basis that whether or not such proposals are pursued will depend on a judgement made much closer to the WRC and balancing the value of such change against the risk of making the proposal.

#### **Conclusion**

While some have very clear views on a number of matters, it is clear that many others, particularly the member

societies are still investigating and considering the issues.

It is also the fact that we have not received what we would regard as sufficient (or any) input on some matters. An example is the lack of views from the smaller societies, particularly from the less developed countries, in relation to the question of the international regulations setting the qualification for amateurs.

A number of those communicating with us have asked for proposals to put to their administrations. We believe that is premature. There are, at this stage, divergent views on many of the issues that are raised. The amateur services will only succeed in achieving their objective if the member societies speak with one voice, all taking a common view. That is not possible at this time. For ourselves, we cannot offer any proposals that we would feel confident either represent a view that would be acceptable to the majority of either societies or amateurs or, indeed, do we feel we could be confident represents a position that we ourselves can say is the best view.

Accordingly, we find that we are not able to make any recommendations at this time other than to recommend that the evolutionary process we have proposed should be allowed to take its course. We continue to seek the views of individuals, groups and societies, and will be particularly interested in the discussions at the forthcoming regional conferences. We welcome further comments. Please communicate to the Committee as follows:

**By mail:** IARU FASC, c/o IARU International Secretariat, P.O. Box 310905, Newington, CT 06131-0905 USA

**By FAX:** 860-594-0259- "To IARU FASC, do IARU International Secretariat"

**By electronic mail:** [iaru@iaru.org](mailto:iaru@iaru.org) (Subject: "To: IARU FASC")

## For Sale

- 60 A tower on ground & ready to go  
4 element 10 meter beam (Boom length 24 feet 6 inches)  
3 element Hygain 20 meter beam.  
Hygain 6 meter beam (All items negotiable sell or trade) Claude N9RDZ 745-7401 (after 5:30pm)
- Kenwood 130 Transceiver with DC cable and microphone. \$300.00  
Contact Jim Hatfield W9HMS 478-9510
- 2 Meter/440 mobile and base antennas at cost or below. **ALL EQUIPMENT IS NEW!!**  
Contact Mike Reynolds N9VWW at 482-5630 days only please

## Wanted

- 10, 15 and 20 meter tri-bander beam.  
Call Ted Hughes 627-8134
- Heathkit SB-220 amp, manual or copy of the wiring diagram and parts list  
Contact Kevin Adam N9IWW at 219-490-7312 or e-mail at "kevina@solaris1.mysolution.com"
- I am writing a computer program to do calculations for different antennas. I would like suggestions on what types of antennas to include and the formulas for the antennas. I would like suggestions for any other ham radio related math to include in this program. Please contact Noel Schutt KB9JHS at 456-9061 or on the W9INX PBBS or through e-mail "NRSchutt@Juno.com"

Beginning with the January issue of the "Hamsplatter" all ads will run on a month by month basis. Please advise me if you need your ad run more than one month or you wish to extend your ad another month.

Thanks and 73,

Todd Hargis N9XRG

*DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE THAT IS HARD TO BUY FOR AT CHRISTMAS? HOW ABOUT A TICKET FOR THE FWRC DAYTON HAMVENTION BUS TRIP. TICKETS ARE \$15.00 A PERSON. A GUARANTEED GOOD TIME. DON'T DELAY, MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW BY CALLING KEVIN ADAM N9IWW AT 490-7312*

**Visit the Fort Wayne Radio Club on the World Wide Web**  
**Address: <http://home.sprynet.com/sprynet/n9xrg/radio.htm>**

Do you have an interesting article or cartoon which you can contribute to the Hamsplatter? Do you have some spare equipment collecting dust that you might want to sell? If so please contact me, Todd Hargis N9XRG, at 492-2138 (leave detailed message and phone number if no answer) or I can also be reached via e-mail at "n9xrg@sprynet.com".

**January Hamsplatter Deadline: January 1, 1997**